company has been set up in Orissa to cover tea plantation in Keonjhar Distt. of Orissa and Tea Board has granted loan for this purpose. Coffee Plantation has been started in Machkund, Rayargada, Gudaygiri, Phulbani, Parlakhenumandi, Jaypore and Koraput.

Export of Wheat to Russia

2967. SHRI M. KADHARSHA:
SHRIMATI SUDHA VIJAY JOSHI:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the shipment of 2,00,000 tonnes of wheat recently exported to Russia was found to be bug infested;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) what steps Government have taken in the matter; and

(d) what is the reaction of the Russian Governmen thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN): (a) and (b) No, Sir. In the wheat exported to USSR, the Russian Quarantine Authorities had found some marginal presence of Nevossia Indica Mitra, which is a plant disease.

(c) and (d) Marginal presence of Nevossia Indica Mitra is not toxic or harmful for human consumption. The matter has been discussed in detail with Technical Experts from the Soviet Union who have also inspected the wheat stocks. Samples have been sent for further analysis to the Soviet Union.

Distribution of re-rolling steel to re-rolling mills

2968. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) what are the criteria adopted by the Steel Authority of India Limited to distribute re-rollable steel to the steel re-rolling mills; and

(b) what steps are being taken to ensure that fictitious firms having no factories in existence do not succeed in drawing steel for sale in black market?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI K. C. PANT): (a) Steel Authority of India Limited distributes re-rollable materials to steel re-rolling mills on the basis of the best annual off-take from SAIL during the period 1981-82, 1982-83 and 1983-84. Supplies to new|sick units are based on their entitlements fixed by the Iron and Steel Controller.

(b) The Iron and Steel (Control) Order has been amended recently to enable the Iron and Steel Controller to take action against those units or individuals who make false claims regarding existence of factories and seek to acquire iron and steel material. The Iron and Steel Control Organisation carries out regular inspections to detect such cases. Appropriate action is taken where required.

India-China protocol

2969. SHRI RAMCHANDRA BHARADWAJ:
SHRIMATI MAIMOONA SULTAN:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and China have signed a protocol on or about November 2, 1985 for bilateral imports and exports;

(b) if so, what are the details of trade to be transacted thereunder between the two countries; and

(c) what are the details of exports to and imports from China during the years from 1981 to 1985 and during 1985-86 so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN): (a) Yes, Sir. India and China signed a trade protocol on 23rd November, 1985.

(b) The two countries have agreed to establish trade of a total value of about US $100-160 million during

1986. Items of export interest have been identified. The Commodities listed in the protocol are only indicative. The protocol will become operative w.e.f. 1st Jan., 1986 and shall remain valid for a period of one year.

(c) The available details of bilateral trade from 1981-82 on wards are as below:—

Rr in lakhs

Year	Exports to China	Imports from china
1981-82 . . .	5268	7826
1982-83 . . .	1216	10502
1983-84 . . .	572	7579
1984-85* . . .	212	6655

*Provisional.

India Tourist Office, London

2970. SHRIMATI MAIMOONA SULTAN:

SHRI RAMCHANDRA BHARADWAJ:

Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned 'India tourism staff in London agitated' which appeared in the Times of India of the 23rd November, 1985;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard; and

(c) what steps are being taken by Government to set the matters right?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) A locally based Accountant was dismissed by Director, Tourist Office, London for long absence from duty and misconduct. He has submitted his case to the Industrial Tribunal. Two other local employees, have also submitted applications to Industrial Tribunal for changing the terms and conditions of appointment. Thus all hese cases are *subjudice*.

Director's Tour to India with groups of Travel writers/Agents and Tour operators, and her visit to Singapore, were undertaken with the prior approval of the Government.

The Tourist Traffic from the U.K. as also from other countries in Europe during 1984 declined because of adverse media coverage in foreign countries regarding certain unforeseen unfortunate evnts.

Various measures adopted by the Government to accelerate tourists traffic to India include a reassurance campaign, reorientation of the publicity campaign giving emphasis on consumer advertising, stepping up of public relations with tour operators and travel agents abroad, participation in international travel fairs and exhibitions, expansion of internal transport systems, development of infra-structure for holiday tourism, in addition to cultural tourism. etc.

Production of metal scrap

2971. SHRI SYED AHMAD HASHMI: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of mini steel plants in the country;

(b) what is the quantum of metal scrap required by these plants every year;

(c) what is the quantity of metal scrap produced in the country every year; and

(d) what steps Government are taking or propose to take to make this raw material available for mini steel plants?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI K. C. PANT): (a) At present 159 mini steel plants are in production in the country.

(b) It is estimated that during 1985-86. a total of about 3.5 million